



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Burns P. Phillips et al.
 Appl. No. : 10/613,646
 Filed : July 2, 2003
 Title : SURGICAL RETRCTOR CLAMP
 CONNECTABLE TO AN ARM OF
 THE RETRCTOR
 Grp./A.U. : 3733
 Examiner: Annette R. Reimers
 Customer No. : 1923
 Confirmation No. : 4622

Certificate of Mailing

I, hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any documents referred to as attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 20, 2006.

Sarah J. Goodnight
 Sarah J. Goodnight

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

No additional claim fees are required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	FEE
Total Claims	15	20	0	\$50.00 =	\$0.00
Independent Claims	3	3	0	\$200.00 =	\$0.00
Multiple dependent claims newly presented					\$0.00
Fee for extension of time					\$0.00
Total of Above Calculations					\$0.00

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-0206, including any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for presentation of extra claims and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

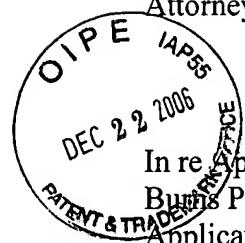
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Matthew J. Gryzl

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 CHI99 4763616-1.077119.0026



Attorney Docket No. 77119-026

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Burris Phillips and Larry Griffith
Application No.: 10/613,646
Confirmation No.: 4622
Filed On: July 2, 2003

For: SURGICAL RETRCTOR CLAMP
CONNECTABLE TO AN ARM OF THE
RETRACTOR

Examiner: Reimers, Annette R.

Art Unit: 3733

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action mailed September 21, 2006, rejecting all pending claims. In the Office Action the Examiner set a shortened statutory period, expiring on December 21, 2006. This Response is being submitted within the shortened statutory time period. Accordingly, no additional fee is required.

Applicants extend their thanks to the Examiner for participating in the telephonic interview, held December 18, 2006.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

Reconsideration of the referenced application, including all pending claims, is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks set forth below.